line now meant for goods trains only; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government are aware of a commitment of the previous Railway Minister in a letter No. 90/Chg. I|16|E|2 dated 28th January, 1991 to the then a Member of Parliament to complete the work in 1991-92;

(c) if so, the steps taken thereon;

(d) whether Government are also aware of a public agitation on April 6, 1992 against breach of commitment; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) There is a proposal to extend Dhanbad-Patherdih train upto Bhojudih after remodelling of Patherdih yard.

(b) The letter under reference stated the fact that necessary work on modification of Patherdih-Bhojudih section to make it fit for running passenger trains, had been included in the Work Programme for 1991-92.

(c) The work is in progress.

(d) There was an agitation at Bhojudih on 6-4-92 demanding better rail services including extension of Dhanbad-Patherdih train upto Bhojudih.

(e) Extension of train upto Bhojudih will be considered on completion of the work.

Principle of transferring dividends

1904. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the principle of transferring dividends by Railways to the General Fund; and

(b) the amount so transferred during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The rates of dividend payable by the Railways to General Revenues are based on the recommendations of the railway Convention Committee duly approved by Parliament.

(b) The dividend paid was as under:

Year	Amount (Rupees in crores)
1988-89	715.66
1989-90	808.81
1990-91	938.11

Gauge conversion projects

1905. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of gauge conversion projects under implementation and since when;

(b) whether any target date for their completion has been fixed;

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay in their completion and the costescalation due to delay;

(d) whether Government have decided to carry out gauge conversion projects on a war-footing and complete them by the 31st March, 1993; and

(e) if so, the details thereof especially the mechanism developed to ensure the completion by the target date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) (i) There are 31 guage conversion projects in progress as on date. Of these, 19 have been taken up as new works in 92-93 Budget;